



**METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION**

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Legislation Committee  
November 14, 2008  
**Minutes**

*Bill Dodd, Chair*  
Napa County and Cities

*Scott Haggerty, Vice Chair*  
Alameda County

*Tom Ammiano*  
City and County of San Francisco

*Tom Azumbrado*  
U.S. Department of Housing  
and Urban Development

*Tom Bates*  
Cities of Alameda County

*Dean J. Chu*  
Cities of Santa Clara County

*Dave Cortese*  
Association of Bay Area Governments

*Dorene M. Giacomini*  
U.S. Department of Transportation

*Federal D. Glover*  
Contra Costa County

*Anne W. Halsted*  
San Francisco Bay Conservation  
and Development Commission

*Steve Kinsey*  
Marin County and Cities

*Sue Lempert*  
Cities of San Mateo County

*Jake Mackenzie*  
Sonoma County and Cities

*Jon Rubin*  
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

*Bijan Sartipi*  
State Business, Transportation  
and Housing Agency

*James P. Spering*  
Solano County and Cities

*Adrienne J. Tissier*  
San Mateo County

*Amy Worth*  
Cities of Contra Costa County

*Ken Yeager*  
Santa Clara County

*Steve Heminger*  
Executive Director

*Ann Flemer*  
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

*Andrew B. Fremier*  
Deputy Executive Director,  
Bay Area Toll Authority

*Therese W. McMillan*  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

Vice Chair Yeager called the committee to order at 10:45 a.m. Committee members in attendance: Chu, Haggerty, Giacomini, Halsted, Spering, and Worth. Also in attendance was Commissioner Bates.

**Minutes** of the Oct. 10, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved following a motion by Commissioner Haggerty and a second by Commissioner Chu.

**MTC Advisory Committee Work Plans —  
Minority Citizens Advisory Committee (MCAC)**

Pam Grove of MTC staff introduced MCAC Chair James McGhee. Mr. McGhee reported on his committee's 2007-08 activities and presented its work plan for FY 2008-09.

He emphasized the strong role played by subcommittees and outlined their major topics: contracting, high school internships, Lifeline, and equity analysis of Transportation 2035. Commissioner Giacomini said she was able to attend some MCAC meetings and appreciated the inclusiveness of the committee's efforts, especially on behalf of the disabled.

**Election Wrap-up**

Vice Chair Yeager began by congratulating Commissioner Bates on his re-election as Mayor of Berkeley.

Ms. Griffin reviewed outcomes of transportation-related ballot measures, and all of the changes to the Bay Area state legislative delegation. She made special note of Commissioner Ammiano's election to represent the Assembly 13<sup>th</sup> District. She said that the election memorandum in the packet inadvertently omitted Assemblywoman Lois Wolk's election to represent Senate District 5. Also, she added that three members of MTC advisory committees won elections: Advisory Council's John Inks to the Mountain View City Council; EDAC's Shirlee Zane to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors; and MCAC's Carlos Romero to the East Palo Alto City Council. Commissioner Worth asked if passage of the local sales tax measure in Imperial County was a renewal or a new tax. [It is a new tax that replaced an expired tax. The tax is mostly for transit but also for roads.] Randy Rentschler said that Los Angeles County now has three half-cent self-help sales taxes, and when including the one-quarter cent TDA tax, possibly ties Alameda County for the highest sales tax rate in the state, but that he would clarify that. [Los Angeles and Alameda counties both have a sales tax rate of eight and three-quarter percent.] Making public comment, MTC Advisory Council Chair Bob Planthold lamented that election wins by advisory committee members were merely noted orally and not in writing.

**Special Session: FY 2008-09 State Budget Update**

Rebecca Long distributed a memorandum on this year's \$11 billion shortfall and on a combination of tax increases proposed for the special session called by the Governor.

Ms. Long also reported on the proposal's reduction of Proposition 42 transit funds and eventual elimination of State Transit Assistance funding. She highlighted impacts of the proposed cuts on local transit operators.

**Draft 2009 Legislative Program**

Randy Rentschler reviewed large policy matters in the proposed program for the 2009 state and federal legislative sessions, then sought direction from the Committee. There was discussion about the merits of a regional gas tax vs. an increase in the vehicle license fee (VLF). There is much competition for funding from the VLF, such as from the California Highway Patrol and the Department of Motor Vehicles. Regarding a network of high-occupancy tolls in the region, Commissioner Chu emphasized the importance of being locally prepared before taking the matter to the state level. Commissioner Sperring cautioned against holding up a HOT lane network for lack of consensus.

Mr. Rentschler reviewed federal aspects of the proposed 2009 program. Also, strategies for timing MTC's annual visits to its delegations in Sacramento and DC were discussed.

**Tom Bulger's Report** was received by the Committee.

**Other Business/Public Comment/Adjourn**

There was no public comment. Commissioner Yeager asked if there was news on the appointment of a Dept. of Transportation Secretary by the new Administration. Mr. Rentschler said there was nothing definite. The committee's next meeting was scheduled for Dec. 12, 2008. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.